

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus for re-coding an image signal, which conducts re-coding processing using a decoded image signal subjected to coding processing as an input image signal, comprising:

a DCT unit for subjecting the input image signal to a discrete cosine transform (DCT);

a DCT coefficient counter for counting a feature amount on a picture basis using a DCT coefficient output from said DCT unit;

a picture type detector for detecting a picture type in coding processing in a previous stage, using the feature amount output from said DCT coefficient counter;

a coding control portion for determining coding parameters in re-coding in accordance with detection results of said picture type detector; and

a coding portion for conducting re-coding processing, using the coding parameters determined by said coding control portion.

2. The apparatus for re-coding an image signal according to claim 1, wherein said picture type detector includes, as a picture type to be detected, at least two of three kinds of picture types of an intra frame coding picture, a forward inter-frame predictive coding picture, and a bi-directional inter-frame predictive coding picture.

3. The apparatus for re-coding an image signal according to claim 1,

wherein said DCT coefficient counter counts, as a feature amount, a sum of absolute values or a sum of squares on a frequency region basis of DCT coefficients, and

    said picture type detector detects a picture type in accordance with variations with time of the sum of absolute values or the sum of squares thus obtained.

4. The apparatus for re-coding an image signal according to claim 3, wherein said picture type detector detects, as an intra frame coding picture, a picture whose sum of absolute values or sum of squares in a high-frequency region is smaller than those of previous and subsequent pictures

5. The apparatus for re-coding an image signal according to claim 3, wherein said picture type detector detects, as an intra frame coding picture or a forward inter-frame coding picture, a picture whose sum of absolute values or sum of squares in a low-frequency region is larger than those of previous and subsequent pictures.

6. The apparatus for re-coding an image signal according to claim 1, wherein said DCT coefficient counter counts, as a feature amount, the number of DCT coefficients whose absolute values are larger or smaller than previously set threshold values, and

    said picture type detector detects a picture type in accordance with the obtained number.

7 The apparatus for re-coding an image signal according to claim 6, wherein said picture type detector detects, as an intra frame coding picture, a picture having a smaller number of DCT coefficients whose absolute values are larger than threshold values and a picture having a larger number of DCT coefficients whose absolute values are smaller than threshold values.

8. The apparatus for re-coding an image signal according to claim 1, wherein said coding control portion determines coding parameters using the picture type detected by the picture type detector.

9 The apparatus for re-coding an image signal according to claim 1, wherein said coding control portion determines coding parameters, using an intended coding amount set in accordance with the picture type detected by the picture type detector.